

Volume 23, Issue 12

DECEMBER 2020

## Join Us for December 8 Virtual Meeting

**A**t last!! After months of not being able to hold chapter meetings, we have scheduled a virtual meeting for December. Josh Borovsky, who has met with us in December for the past several years, will give an update on the 2020 season, reveal his pink days for 2021, and most importantly give us the inside scoop.

Josh is a full time guide and splits his season between Lake Vermilion and the Metro area lakes. He also co-founded Musky Insider with Nick Lindner. Musky Insider is a free weekly muskie fishing publication delivered to its subscribers by email. Subscribe at [www.muskyinsider.com](http://www.muskyinsider.com).

The meeting will begin at 7 pm on Tuesday, September 8. If you receive On the Water by email, a link was included with the email. If you need a link to the meeting, please contact [tcmuskiesincnews@gmail.com](mailto:tcmuskiesincnews@gmail.com).

## Chapter Elections

We will also be holding elections for chapter officers during the December meeting. Officers will be chosen from newly-elected and current members of the chapter Board of Directors. Board members are elected to serve two-year terms. New Board members who will serve starting in January will have been chosen by an online election. If you have not already cast your vote for the chapter's Board of Directors go to:

<http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org/node/257>

You can vote through December 7. Results of the online vote will be tabulated by the chapter meeting for election of officers.

## Help Wanted: Chapter Treasurer

**S**tarting in January, the chapter will be without a treasurer. We will need someone to take over as soon as possible. The chapter treasurer is responsible balancing check books, writing checks, paying chapter bills and entering banking information into Quick Books.

The treasurer is a member of the chapter Board of Directors and reports to the board each month on the chapter's financial status. The treasurer must work with the national accountant for end-of-year reports and Quick Books files.

Our chapter's current treasurer, Elaine Randolph, will not be able to continue the job next year. The chapter owns the PC with Quick Books and that will be turned over to the new treasurer. Elaine will work with the new treasurer to make the transition as simple as possible.

If you're interested in helping out the chapter as treasurer, contact president Jim Doyle at [doyle\\_jim@hotmail.com](mailto:doyle_jim@hotmail.com) or 952-920-9818.

## Applications Being Accepted for Hugh C. Becker Grants

**APPLICATION PERIOD:** November 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021

**MAILING INSTRUCTIONS:** The ORIGINAL and FOUR copies (total of 5) should be sent to Hugh C. Becker Committee of Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies, Inc., postmarked no later than 25 January 2021, c/o George Selcke, 5217 Nolan Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55343-8996. E-mail applications will not be accepted. Include your IRS Employee Identification Number (EIN).

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Requests are not to be more than five (5) legibly typed pages and must include all the following criteria:

- 1 Name and address of the group, and the group's Employee Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS. If applicable, include a history of the group's accomplished projects to date.
- 2 Demonstrate need - how will this project benefit the Muskellunge program(s) in area, region, or range (Canada included).
- 3 What is the project and what is purpose of project?
- 4 Where is this project taking place?
- 5 What is the duration of this project/ start and finish dates?
- 6 What are the cost breakouts? Itemize equipment and labor, and provide quotes.
- 7 Who will be involved: the project team, project manager/coordinator, and applicable means of contact (phone numbers).

**GRANTS** continued on page 4

## **Nominations Being Accepted for Chapter Muskie Award**

**T**he chapter's Muskie Award is presented each year to a deserving chapter member who has constantly and unselfishly devoted time and energy over the years to promoting and improving the goals of Muskies, Inc.

The first Muskie Award was presented to Muskies, Inc. founder, Gil Hamm in 1974. At that time, our national umbrella had not yet been formed and the award recipient was chosen from among all Muskies, Inc. members, regardless of chapter affiliation. In 1980 when there were a number of chapters and it became too difficult to choose a recipient from the entire organization, the Muskie Award was dropped. The Twin Cities chapter made the decision to continue the award for our chapter.

Submit nomination of an individual (or individuals) for the Muskie Award in writing. Include the reasons you are nominating that person (persons) or a history of their involvement with the Twin Cities Chapter over the years.

Nominations must be in by December 31. Send to Jim Kroupa at 6311 Steller Circle, Excelsior, MN 55331. Or email it to Jim at [kroupaandsusan@gmail.com](mailto:kroupaandsusan@gmail.com). Call Jim at 952-474-5967 if you have questions.

The Board of Directors will vote on the nominees and the award will be presented when we hold our awards program for the chapter's Members Only Contest.

## **Sportsman's Banquet Canceled/Postponed**

**W**ith pandemic protocols limiting the number of people who can gather together safely not looking like they will change in the near future, the Board of Directors has made the decision to cancel our annual Sportsman's Banquet that had been scheduled for January 30, 2021. It will be re-scheduled sometime in the future when it can be held safely. The banquet is one of the chapter's events that funds our stocking and projects budget.

*From Our President, JIM DOYLE*

*Season's Greetings to all as the 2020 Muskie season winds to a close. As we all know there were plenty of challenges for everyone, but people really got out fishing - even if it was closer to home than usual. We had tremendous participation in socially-distanced tournaments and youth events this year with lots of people getting out boating and fishing over the summer.*

*This season, with restrictions on the spring egg take, stocking of muskies in Minnesota was in doubt. Muskie fishermen across the state pulled together to get fish reared and stocked in a situation that seemed pretty dire at the time. Funds were raised from chapters and fishermen across the state. Muskies that had over-wintered were purchased from the MN Muskie Farm, the MN DNR Waterville hatchery reared them, and the fish were stocked around the state. A pretty amazing effort by all involved to pull it off in 2020.*

*This winter, be sure to support all the small entrepreneurs in the Muskie industry with on-line ordering, etc. in the event that in person Muskie Expos are again not possible.*

## **Chapter T-shirts Available**

**I**n response to many requests, the chapter now has long-sleeved grey crew-neck t-shirts with the large chapter logo on the front available for purchase. L and XL shirts sell for \$25, 2XL and 3XL are \$30. If you want the shirt mailed, add \$9. Otherwise we will arrange for pick-up times at the Knights of Columbus in Bloomington where our meetings take place. To place an order for the shirts, go to our website at: <http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org/node/260>.



## **'Tis the Season for Giving**

**C**an't think of a gift for the outdoors person on your list who is a muskie angler or wants to become one? Give a Muskies, Inc. membership. Sign them up at [www.muskiesinc.org](http://www.muskiesinc.org).

Or invite them on a trip to Red Wing Lodge, Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods. Our annual outing with the North Metro chapter is scheduled for August 7-14, 2021.

And remember, if you show your Muskies, Inc. membership card at Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle in Oakdale or Thorne Bros. in Blaine, you can get a 10% discount.

Or give back to your chapter by volunteering to fill one of the vacant chairperson jobs. Or volunteer to be on a committee.

## Chapter Committed to Stocking Efforts

In 2019 the Twin Cities chapter of Muskies, Inc. led a stocking project larger than any other in our chapter's history. The chapter led an effort to fund stocking for all the fish planned to go in Lake Minnetonka totaling 2,925 fish. Total TCMI chapter was the main support along with a Hugh C. Becker Grant, the North Metro Chapter, and individual contributions totaling \$45,952.

In 2020 the Twin Cities chapter was again looking to support stocking and rearing of Muskies. We had our banquet in January in support of that and then everything changed with Covid-19 in March. Shortly after the lockdown began, the MN DNR announced there would be no egg collection in 2020. Things looked bleak to get any Muskie stocking done this year.

The Minnesota Muskie Farm contacted the chapter letting us know

that they did carry over some fish from the previous year that were available for purchase. The exact number of fish was not known at the time, but it was thought to be up to several thousand fish. Considering the significant spend the previous year, this was going to be a big commitment for our chapter alone and the ability to rear the fish for a second season was not settled at that point. The MN DNR stepped up with an offer to rear whatever fish could be purchased in the Waterville hatchery for a second season to grow them to the maximum size for more effective survival in the wild.

The chapter got the word out for the need for funds to the public and other MI chapters across the state and a broad range of people and chapters committed funds to the project. The MN Muskie Farm, after netting their ponds in June, found they had about

1,500 fish. Fish were transferred to the ponds in Waterville. At the end of the summer Waterville produced 1,367 fish in the 17-18" range. The MN DNR also netted ponds of their own for an additional 591 fish for a total of 1,985 stocked across the state. Fish were stocked in lakes as follows; Bald Eagle 264, French Lake 80, Mille Lacs 1,000, Waconia 205, White Bear 82, Alexander 105, Shamaineau 87, and Spider 135.

Fish this large have a big survival advantage over the typical 11-13" fish. The larger fish survive at a rate 3-5 times better than the smaller fish, so even though the numbers are relatively small, this is a major stocking effort that will produce significant adult fish. The total funding for this effort came to \$23,000.

In 2021, we are again going to work with the MN DNR to maximize stocking totals in the Metro and across the state.

## Members Only Contest

Data compiled as of November 29.

### JUNIOR DIVISION

| NAME                | POINTS | NO. FISH | LONGEST |
|---------------------|--------|----------|---------|
| 1ST Isaiah Chrissis | 49     | 5        | 42.5    |

### WOMEN'S DIVISION

|                    |    |   |      |
|--------------------|----|---|------|
| 1ST Callista Klaus | 32 | 2 | 46   |
| 2ND Isabelle Bogen | 26 | 1 | 51.5 |

### WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

|                   |    |   |       |
|-------------------|----|---|-------|
| 1ST Cindy Hegdahl | 19 | 3 | 34    |
| 2ND Lauren Stout  | 17 | 1 | 43.25 |
| 3rd Linda Knutson | 16 | 1 | 41.5  |

### MEN'S DIVISION

|                       |     |    |       |
|-----------------------|-----|----|-------|
| 1ST Ethan Stout       | 467 | 30 | 53.5  |
| 2ND Nathan Ryskiewicz | 138 | 9  | 50    |
| 3RD Derek Boomer      | 136 | 10 | 49.75 |
| 4TH Steve Agrimson    | 106 | 5  | 49.5  |
| 4TH John Harazin      | 106 | 6  | 52    |
| 6TH Chris Dahl        | 98  | 5  | 48.5  |
| 7TH Josh Hawke        | 89  | 5  | 54.75 |
| 8TH Ryan Sailer       | 75  | 7  | 42    |
| 9TH Craig Johnson     | 66  | 6  | 42    |
| 10TH Ben Knutson      | 61  | 2  | 56    |

### MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

|                  |     |    |    |
|------------------|-----|----|----|
| 1ST Nolen Ryba   | 297 | 19 | 49 |
| 2ND Dale Mueller | 207 | 15 | 48 |
| 3RD Brent Hirsch | 140 | 8  | 50 |

### HYBRID DIVISION

| NAME                  | POINTS | NO. FISH | LONGEST |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---------|
| 1ST Craig Johnson     | 54     | 5        | 42      |
| 2ND Isaiah Chrissis   | 49     | 5        | 42.5    |
| 3RD Nathan Ryskiewicz | 30     | 2        | 41      |

### LUNKER OF THE MONTH

MAY - Greg Ide - 5/30 - 46" - St. Louis River

JUNE - John Harazin - 6/28 - 52" - Metro

JULY - Eric Schultz - 7/18 - 50.25" - St. Louis River

AUGUST - Ethan Stout - 8/6 - 53.5" - Waconia

SEPTEMBER - Ben Knutson - 9/13 - 55.5" - Pelican

OCTOBER - Mark Frederick - 10/16 - 49" - Plantagenet

SEPTEMBER - Ben Knutson - 11/24 - 56.5" - Mille Lacs

## Share Your Muskie Tale

As you reflect back on your fishing this season, keep in mind events that happened that might make a good "Muskie Tale". We're not necessarily looking for the "big fish" story. We're looking for stories that are something a little out of the ordinary – what happened while fishing; on the way to fishing; on the way back. Maybe some kind of mishap happened while you were out fishing; or you found something interesting on the end of your line. We've already heard a few contenders.

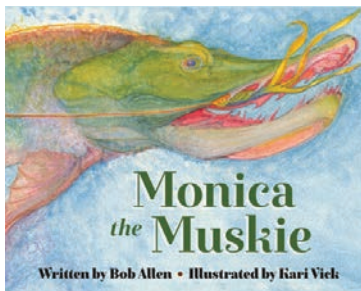
Take home the Muskie Tale. Share your story with us by emailing your "tale" to Denise Olson at [olsonat3pete@gmail.com](mailto:olsonat3pete@gmail.com).

# Red Wing Lodge Prepares for 2021 Muskie Season

Red Wing Lodge, Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods, the family owned and operated resort for over 55 years, has scheduled net year's annual joint outing with Twin Cities and North Metro Muskies, Inc. chapters for August 7-14, 2021. The event was canceled this year because of COVID-19 and they are looking forward to hosting the event next year.

Mike and Anne Bartlett and family have continued this fall to make improvements in their cabins and on their beautiful grounds, as they do every year, in preparation for providing their loyal customers the excitement of big-time Canadian muskie fishing.

To make reservations, or any questions or suggestions for improving this famous trip, contact: John van Ingen at (651) 336-3622, maxjo@mac.com or John Genosky at (651) 329-4898, John@Protacinc.com.



## Monica the Muskie

If you have kids or grandkids in the age range of 2-6, check out books by Bob Allen at boballenbooks.com. His newest book is *Monica the Muskie*. He also has books featuring Walter the Wily Walleye and an adventure about a fly-in fishing trip.

## HUGH C. BECKER GRANTS continued from page 1

- 8 Submit "milestone" dates for progress reports and accountability.
- 9 Can the requesting group match funds from another source? Please list.

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- Cap on any individual grant/fund will be \$10,000; incrementally within year or over the course of years, unless the Grant Committee decides otherwise on any specific proposal
- Successful recipients of awards must give the Hugh C. Becker Foundation appropriate credit and acknowledge the financial contribution in any product or any publicity relating to the project.
- The Hugh C. Becker Foundation reserves the rights to edit all publications.
- If this project fails to reach its purpose, through false reporting, deceit, and/or other unprofessional acts, the requesting group may be responsible for restitution (committee determination).

NOTE: No indirect costs (overhead) will be awarded on research proposals.

### ADDENDUM:

Like projects/activities that may qualify per the wishes and conditions of Hugh C. Becker include, but are not limited to:

- Muskie propagation by the Twin Cities Chapter #1, in their own ponds (?) with their own equipment
- Stocking, by either raising Muskie fingerlings or purchasing fingerlings/yearlings/adults for public use in designated waters
- Habitat protection and improvement
- Clean water (quality) protection and improvement
- Professional research by qualified personnel (not limited to Minnesota, but must include accountable data)
- Expansion of the present muskellunge range (special consideration for the Missouri river system in North/South Dakota)

The Twin Cities Chapter #1 Committee will consider projects based on their respective merits per criteria above, and awards will be published in the Muskie magazine. The principles of Muskies, Inc., Youth, Research, and Fisheries are guidelines inclusive in qualifying and evaluating proposals.

NOTE: Accountability reports (documentation of grant usage), including DNR letters, research papers, publications, university acknowledgments, and any other follow-up information for awards given in a particular year will be required before any individual or group is given consideration for future grants.

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**tc chapter  
contacts**

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Jim Doyle  
952-920-9818  
[tcmi.president@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.president@gmail.com)  
[doyle\\_jim@hotmail.com](mailto:doyle_jim@hotmail.com)

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Casey Friskney  
715-419-1187  
[tcmi.vicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.vicepresident@gmail.com)

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Jim Kroupa  
952-474-5967  
[tcmi.vicepresident2@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.vicepresident2@gmail.com)

**TREASURER**

Elaine Randolph  
612-708-6851  
[tcmi.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.treasurer@gmail.com)

**SECRETARY**

OPEN  
[tcmi.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.secretary@gmail.com)

**REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

OPEN  
[tcmi.rvp@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.rvp@gmail.com)

**COMMITTEE CONTACTS**

**MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST**

Mike Darley  
715-225-0167

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

Peter Janik  
952-649-9576

**STOCKING AND PROJECTS**

John Newman  
651-699-8676

**YOUTH/HS TOURNAMENT**

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**BOARD MEMBERS  
AT LARGE**

Greg Ide  
612-331-5034

Shawn Kellett  
612-201-0209

Pete Kemmer  
952-933-1734

Stu McIntosh  
651-699-9817

Dale Mueller  
414-429-2448

Denise Olson  
612-804-4687

Nolen Ryba  
952-200-1657

Eric Schultz  
651-353-3769

Chris Smythe  
612-281-9981

Steve Smythe  
612-369-8075

Alex Worobel  
651-491-1466

[www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org)

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Chapter of Muskies, Inc.

Contact: Graphic Works  
[olsonat3pete@gmail.com](mailto:olsonat3pete@gmail.com)  
612-804-4687

# next meeting

DECEMBER 8

## VIRTUAL MEETING: JOSH BOROVSKY

*Our annual December speaker is Josh Borovsky. Josh is a full time guide and splits his season between Lake Vermilion and the Metro area lakes.*

*Josh will give an update on his season, reveal his pink days for 2021, and most importantly give us the inside scoop.*

*If you need a link to the meeting, please contact [tcmuskiesincnews@gmail.com](mailto:tcmuskiesincnews@gmail.com).*



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### **Thank Our Sponsors**

*A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for prizes at our Banquet and Tournaments as well as at the welcome table at each meeting.*

*Please make an effort to support our sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the resource and its members.*

*If you're looking for a new bait, remember that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you're looking for a muskie trip, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.*

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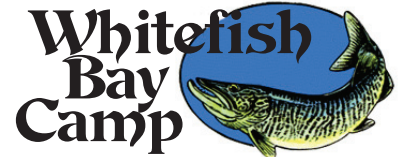
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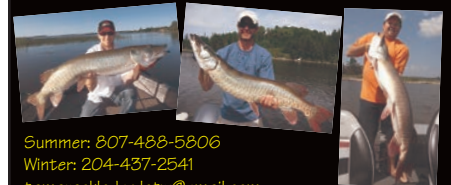
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